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Office of the Governor





Executive Order No. 12-95

EXECUTIVE ORDER CONSOLIDATING STATE LABORATORY SERVICES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

WHEREAS, prior to July 1, 1995, state law placed the responsibility to provide state laboratory services on the former Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, but, effective July 1, 1995, refers to laboratories being in both the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Public Health and Human Services; and

state's Public Health WHEREAS, and Chemistry Laboratories, currently located within the Cogswell Building, provide the services required by law to both the Department of Public Health and Human Services and the Department of Environmental Quality and can continue to do so even if assigned to a single department for administration purposes; and

WHEREAS, requiring both departments to establish and maintain laboratories would be an unnecessary and wasteful duplication of both personnel and financial resources; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Montana are best served by the continued co-location and cooperation between the two laboratories; and

WHEREAS, it is impractical to physically relocate the laboratories from the Cogswell Building; and

WHEREAS, supervision of the laboratory functions can best be provided by the agency that is physically located in the Cogswell Building; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Human Services is scheduled to occupy the Cogswell Building.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARC RACICOT, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Montana, hereby direct the following:

- 1. Effective immediately, the state's Public Health and Chemistry Laboratories, currently referred to as the Public Health Laboratory Eureau and the Chemistry Laboratory Bureau, will be considered to be part of the Department of Public Health and Human Services.
- 2. The fixed assets of the laboratories will be transferred to the Department of Public Health and Human Services on the date of this executive order, and the budget and fiscal activity for the laboratories will be assigned to that department retroactively to July 1, 1995.
- 3. The Department of Public Health and Human Services will have the general administrative responsibility for

the laboratories and will provide general administrative support to them, including budgeting, recordkeeping, reporting, and related administrative functions.

- 4. In each case where the Montana Code Annotated assigns a responsibility to the laboratory of the Department of Environmental Quality, that responsibility will be delegated to the Public Health and Chemistry Laboratories located in the Cogswell Building.
- 5. The Department of Public Health and Human Services will propose and support legislation during the 1997 legislative session that statutorily places the state laboratories within that department.

This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 10th day of November, 1995.

MARC RACICOT, Governor

ATTEST:

MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State